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AUTHOR Baenen, Nancy; And Others
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ABSTRACT

A survey was conducted of parents in the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) in North Carolina. All WCPSS parents were asked their opinions on educational quality, magnet schools options, school safety, parental involvement, school environment, and school climate. Major findings indicate that generally parents expressed positive views regarding system climate with the majority of parents agreeing that the system provided high quality education and offered opportunities for success to all students. As for parental involvement, the majority of parents reported being involved in their child's education, with the greatest parental involvement at the elementary level. Most elementary parents viewed race relations and concerns related to cultural diversity as priorities. The majority of parents whose children used school transportation were satisfied. Parents' perception of their child's safety increased for all school levels in 1994. A comparison of 1994 results with those of the preceding 2 years revealed that parents' perception of the school system have remained stable. (Three attachments provide the actual survey form, the full responses to the 1994 parent survey, and results of the comparison with preceding years.) (AP)

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Eye on Evaluation

Evaluation and Research Department
Wake County Public School System, Raleigh, NC

E&R Report No. 95E.03
February, 1995

FALL 1994 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Contact Persons: Helmuts Feifs (850-1792), Nancy Baenen (850-1903), and Bethany Prohm (850-1883)

Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) parents had decidedly positive views on most issue statements (82%) concerning educational quality, magnet options, school safety, parental involvement, and school environment and climate.

This document highlights key findings and discusses those issue areas for which parents showed concern. Most of the survey items impacted climate. The actual survey items are shown in Attachment 1. Topics that follow will tap important facets of this issue for 1994-95 (for full responses see Attachment 2) and compare results to previous years (for full responses see Attachment 3).

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TOPICS FROM 1994-95

System Climate

Overall, WCPSS parents were pleased with the factors which affected system climate.

Background

The E&R Department sent out approximately 76,234 surveys. This was the fourth consecutive fall that all WCPSS parents were asked to give their opinions on issues relevant to both schools and the district.

Half of the parents (50%) returned the surveys. More elementary parents (59%) returned surveys than middle school (49%) or high school parents (31%). Because the return rate varied across grades, all results are given by school level.

The survey was fairly representative of the ethnic breakdown for the district–it varied by 2 to 9% from the district enrollment for Black and White students at each school level.

- The majority of WCPSS parents reported the system provided high quality education (from 52% high school to 63% elementary) and offered opportunities for success to all students (from 54% high school to 62% elementary).
- Over half of elementary and middle school parents believed the system promoted understanding among students (61% and 53% respectively). Parents' perception of the system was less positive at the high school level (45%).

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- Most WCPSS parents either agreed the school system was improving over time (from 42% high school to 49% elementary) or were unsure whether the system was improving (from 36% high school to 41% elementary). Few parents actually thought the system was not improving (from 22% high school to 11% elementary).

- WCPSS parents either agreed they received prompt and courteous attention when they called the central office (from 36% high school to 43% elementary) or were unsure (from 42% middle school to 46% elementary)--implying they had no contact.

- With regard to magnet schools, the majority of parents for all school levels (i.e., elementary, middle and high school) understood their options and believed magnet funding to be important. In addition, over half of WCPSS parents reported that using magnet programs to balance schools by race was preferable to increased busing.

- WCPSS parents' number one magnet program choice for future expansion was a program emphasizing principles shared by business and law (from 59% high school to 71% elementary) followed by programs preparing students for careers in agriculture, environmental industries, and the medical profession.

School Climate

WCPSS parents generally had positive views regarding school climate. However, these views were less positive at the higher school levels.

- Over three fourths of all WCPSS parents reported their child's school grounds and school building were clean.

- Nearly all elementary parents reported the school staff was easy to contact (89%) and that prompt attention was given to their calls (87%). The majority of middle and high school parents reported similar views, but the positive trend was not as pronounced.

- The majority of WCPSS parents reported the climate at their child's school promoted learning (from 56% high school to 88% elementary), had a high quality education program (from 68% high school to 83% elementary) and academically challenged their child (from 59% high school to 69% elementary). In addition, over two thirds of all parents (from 65% high school to 77% elementary) thought their child received the right amount of homework.

- Middle school and elementary parents thought computers to be the most widely

used technology in their child's instructional program, whereas high school parents reported calculators were more widely used. Almost all WCPSS parents reported that classroom instruction based on computers and related technology prepares their child for the future (from 91% high school to 97% elementary).

- Over half of WCPSS parents reported they could count on the school for support regarding concerns about their child (from 50% high school to 79% elementary).

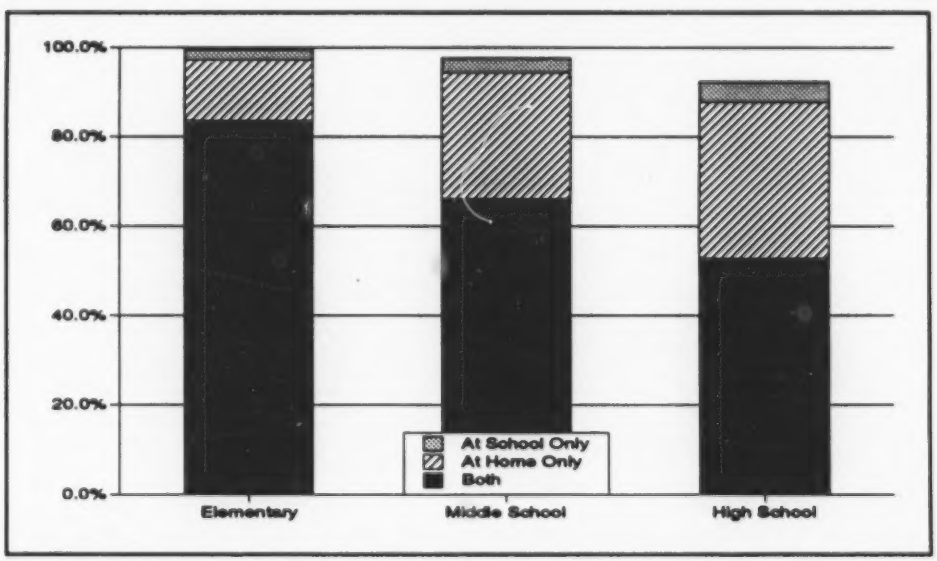
- Over two thirds of elementary parents (69%) reported students at their child's school were well behaved. This percentage decreased for middle school (46%) and was even lower for high school (35%).

Parental Involvement

The majority of WCPSS parents reported being involved in their child's education. The greatest parental involvement was at the elementary level with less involvement at middle school and even less at the high school level.

- The majority of WCPSS parents were involved in their child's education both at home and school--84% elementary, 66% middle, and 53% of high school parents. A small percentage of parents reported involvement at home only or at school only (see Figure 1).

Figure 1
Parental Involvement Fall 1994
I get involved in my child's education:



- Two thirds (63%) of elementary school parents were in the school's PTA and nearly three fourths (72%) had been contacted by the school/PTA to participate. The percentage of parents in PTA was somewhat less for secondary schools.

- Most WCPSS parents reported they were informed of their child's progress (from 69% high school to 90% elementary) and that they had seen progress in their child's learning in the past 12 months (from 70% high school to 88% elementary).

- WCPSS parents reported they were comfortable visiting their child's school (from 77% high school to 94% elementary) and that they had sufficient opportunities to be involved at their child's school (from 60% high school to 91% elementary school).

- Over one third of elementary parents (34%) and a small percentage of middle school (14%) and high school parents (14%) responded they volunteered in their child's school at least monthly. The number one reason parents gave for not volunteering was a lack of time.

Race Relations

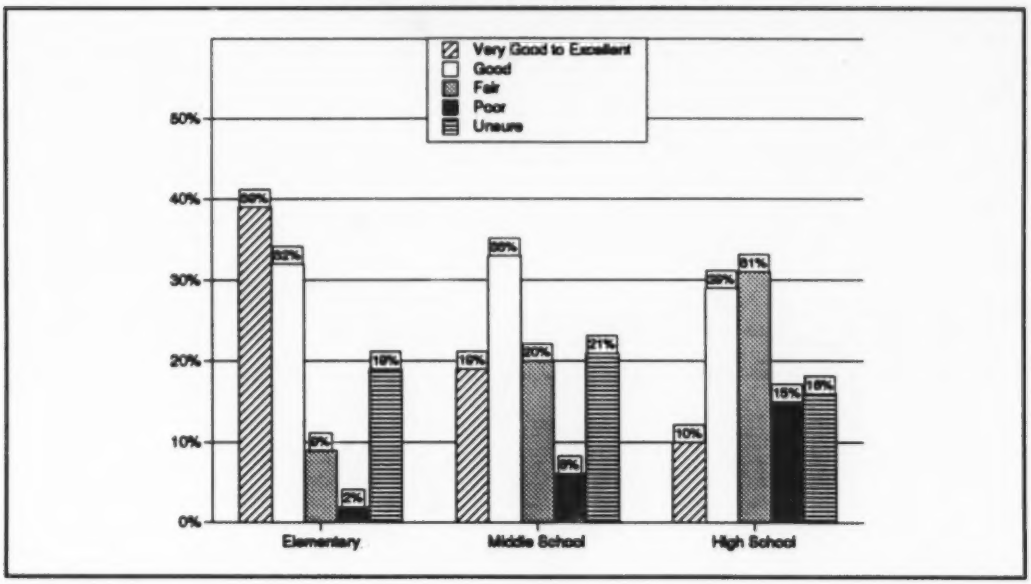
Most elementary parents described race relations in WCPSS as good to excellent. This percentage decreased for secondary schools. Only a very small percentage of parents at any school level thought race relations were poor.

- Most elementary parents (71%) saw race relations in their child's school as good, very good, or excellent. Parents' description of race relations was less positive at the secondary school level, with 52% of middle and 38% of high school parents rating race relations as good to excellent. The opposite trend was true for poor ratings (see Figure 2).

- Among WCPSS parents, almost equal percentages thought race relations were either improving over time or were unsure of the status on this issue. The percentage of WCPSS parents who reported race relations were improving for the district decreased 2-5% from the 1993-1994 school year. If those parents who responded "unsure" were excluded, a majority of elementary (78%) and middle school parents (64%) and about half of high school parents (49%) saw race relations as improving.

The district continues to see race relations and diversity as priorities. Staff training on these issues continues and a diversity plan for the next three years was recently approved by the Board of Education.

Figure 2
Race Relations Fall 1994
Race relations at my child's school are:



Transportation

The majority of WCPSS parents whose children used school transportation were satisfied.

- The majority of elementary and middle school parents (53% and 55% respectively) reported the schools' transportation was good to excellent. Most high school parents responded their child's school transportation was good to excellent (33%) or that their child did not use school transportation (46%). Only a very small percentage--4% of elementary, 10% of middle, and 7% of high school parents--reported their child's school transportation was poor.

- The majority of all WCPSS parents (ranged from 57% elementary to 82% high school) responded they had no communication with their child's bus driver. Elementary parents saw communications with their child's bus driver as sufficient more often than secondary parents.

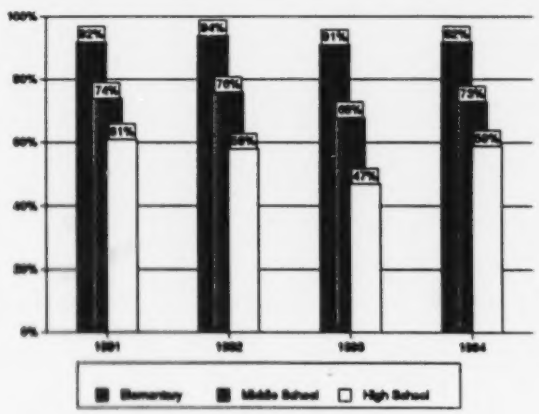
Safety

Parents' perception of their child's safety increased for all school levels this year.

- The majority of parents for all levels perceived their child's school as a safe place to learn--92% elementary, 73% middle, and 59% of high school parents.

- The percentage of parents who believed their child's school was safe increased at all three levels this year with the greatest improvement (11%) at the high school level (see Figure 3).

Figure 3
Strongly Agree & Agree Responses to the Item:
My child's school is a safe place to learn.



- Parents' top three choices for effective measures that would decrease violence in public schools were almost identical for all school levels. Parents most often recommended:
  1) Stronger penalties for children who possess weapons or who are involved in violent acts,
  2) Training school staffs to deal with school violence, and
  3) Training students about conflict resolution (elementary and middle school parents' third choice) and having police officers on high school campuses (high school parents' third choice).

WCPSS has been collaborating with local law enforcement agencies and has received grants to increase efforts focused on safety. Efforts have been made to place police officers on high school campuses, enforce stronger penalties for weapons possession, train students about conflict resolution, and implement safe schools and intervention/prevention efforts. These factors may have had an impact on parents' perception of school safety. In addition, the number of violent incidents has been decreasing in WCPSS and is low relative to other large school systems.

COMPARISON OF 1994-1995 RESULTS TO PAST YEARS

Comparison of common items from this year to the past two school years revealed that parents' perception of the school system has remained stable. However, responses to some items (other than the race relations and safety changes already discussed) did fluctuate 3% or more and should be noted (see Attachment 3 for more details).

- The percentage of middle school parents who thought their child was academically challenged increased from the 1993-1994 school year (3% increase). Also increasing was the percentage of high school parents who reported the school system provided opportunities for all students.

- This year, fewer middle (9% decline) and high school parents (13% decline) agreed that their child's school provided sufficient opportunities for parental involvement.

- The percentage of elementary and middle school parents who agreed the school system was improving decreased slightly (5% for elementary and 4% for middle school) from last year.

- Since the 1993-1994 school year, the percentage of middle and high school parents who agreed that their child's school grounds were clean and attractive has slightly decreased (4% and 5%, respectively).

- Similarly, there was also a 3% decrease in high school parents who preferred magnet school programs to increased busing for racially balanced schools and a 5% decrease in high school parents who understood the magnet options.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Each school's media center has a complete set of responses for the appropriate school level and the individual school in the E&R Report Notebook for 1994-95.

ATTACHMENT 1

Fill in your choice in pencil.

ELEMENTARY

My child's school is:

- Adams
- Apex
- Aversboro
- Baucom
- Brassfield
- Brentwood
- Briarcliff
- Brooks
- Bugg
- Carver
- Cary
- Combs
- Conn
- Creech Rd.
- Douglas
- Durant Rd.
- Farmington Woods
- Fox Road
- Fuller
- Fuquay-Varina
- Green
- Hunter
- Jeffreys Grove
- Joyner
- Kingswood
- Knightdale
- Lacy
- Leadmine Road
- Leesville
- Lincoln Heights
- Lockhart
- Lynn Road
- Millbrook
- Morrisville
- North Ridge
- Northwoods
- Oak Grove
- Olds
- Penny Road
- Pleasant Union
- Poe
- Powell
- Rand Road
- Rolesville
- Root
- Smith
- Stough
- Swift Creek
- Underwood
- Vance
- Vandora Springs
- Wake Forest
- Washington
- Wendell
- West Lake
- Wilburn
- Wiley
- Willow Springs
- York
- Zebulon

ALREADY FILLED OUT

1. **How many total years have you had children in this school?**
   - 1 or less
   - 2
   - 3
   - 4
   - 5
   - 6 or more

2. **How many children do you currently have in Wake County Public Schools?**
   - 1
   - 2
   - 3
   - 4
   - 5
   - 6
   - 7
   - 8 or more

3. **My child is being served by the following programs this year (mark all that apply):**
   - Academically Gifted (AG)
   - Special Education (except AG)
   - Reading Recovery/Early Reading (grade 1)
   - Chapter 1 (grades 2-3)
   - None of the above
   - Do not know

4. **Do you serve in your child's school as a volunteer on a regular basis (at least monthly)?**
   - Yes (go to item 6)
   - No

5. **If you are not a volunteer for education which answer(s) best describes why (mark all that apply)?**
   - Time constraints
   - Transportation constraints
   - Lack of volunteer training
   - Do not know who to contact
   - Do not feel comfortable at the school
   - Nature of tasks
   - No interest
   - Other

6. **What is this child's grade level?**
   - K
   - 1
   - 2
   - 3
   - 4
   - 5

7. **Mark all that apply; this child's ethnic group is:**
   - Asian/Pacific Islander
   - African American/Black
   - Alaskan/Native American
   - Hispanic
   - White
   - Other

8. **Are you a member of the PTA for this school?**
   - Yes
   - No
   - Unsure

9. **Have you been contacted by the school or the PTA to participate in some role in your child's school?**
   - Yes
   - No
   - Unsure

10. **I receive enough communication from the school to keep me informed of its activities.**
    - Yes
    - No
    - Unsure

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
11. My child's school is a safe place to learn.	○	○	○	○	○
12. My child's school grounds are clean and attractive.	○	○	○	○	○
13. My child s school building is clean and attractive.	○	○	○	○	○
14. My child's school provides a high quality educational program.	○	○	○	○	○
15. The staff at my child's school has high expectations for my child.	○	○	○	○	○
16. My child is academically challenged in all classes.	○	○	○	○	○
17. It is easy to contact the staff at my child's school.	○	○	○	○	○
18. When I have a concern about my child, I can count on the school for support.	○	○	○	○	○
19. I feel comfortable visiting my child's school.	○	○	○	○	○
20. My child's school provides sufficient opportunities for parental involvement.	○	○	○	○	○
21. I am informed about my child's progress on a regular basis (in addition to report cards).	○	○	○	○	○
22. If I call the school, I receive prompt and courteous attention.	○	○	○	○	○
23. The climate at my child's school promotes learning.	○	○	○	○	○
24. Students at my child's school are well behaved overall.	○	○	○	○	○
25. I have seen progress in my child's learning in the past 12 months.	○	○	○	○	○

26. **I get involved in my child's education:**
    - at school (for example, parent/teacher conferences, school events)
    - at home (for example, emphasizing homework, reading with my child, sending refreshments, materials, donations to school)
    - Both of the above
    - Neither of the above

27. **Race relations at my child's school are:**
    - Excellent
    - Very good
    - Good
    - Fair
    - Poor
    - Don't know

28. I would enroll my child in a year-round school.
○ Yes ○ No

29. The amount of homework my child receives is:
○ Too much ○ Too little
○ Just right ○ None

30. If your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for Special Education, were you involved in its development?
○ Yes ○ No ○ Does not apply

31. Transportation services for my child are:
○ Excellent ○ Good ○ Poor
○ Very good ○ Fair ○ My child does not ride the bus

32. I have had adequate communications with my child's bus driver this year.
○ Yes ○ No ○ No communication

33. My child's school uses the following technology in its instructional program (mark all that apply):
○ Computers ○ Calculators
○ CD Roms ○ Modems

34. Using classroom instruction based on computers and related technology prepares my child for the future.
○ Yes ○ No

35. To help us better plan facilities use, please provide the last three digits of your zip code:

2	① ● ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ● ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨
7	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨
	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨
	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨
	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨	① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨

Only complete the next questions once per family.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
36. The Wake County Public School System is improving over time.	○	○	○	○	○
37. The overall educational program in this school system is of high quality.	○	○	○	○	○
38. This school system offers opportunities for success to all students.	○	○	○	○	○
39. This school system is taking the necessary steps to promote understanding among students.	○	○	○	○	○
40. If I call the school system's central office, I receive prompt and courteous attention.	○	○	○	○	○
41. Race relations in this district are improving over time.	○	○	○	○	○
42. I understand the magnet program options available to me.	○	○	○	○	○
43. Use of magnet programs to balance schools by race is preferable to an increase in forced busing.	○	○	○	○	○
44. Magnet schools offer additional programs. It is important to fund these programs.	○	○	○	○	○

45. How effective do you think each of the following measures would be in reducing violence in the public schools?

	Not At All Effective	Not Very Effective	Don't Know	Somewhat Effective	Very Effective
Incorporating character education into the existing curriculum	○	○	○	○	○
Training school staffs in how to deal with student violence	○	○	○	○	○
Training students about conflict resolution	○	○	○	○	○
Placing police officers on high school campuses	○	○	○	○	○
Establishing more alternative schools	○	○	○	○	○
Enforcing stronger penalties for weapons possessions or other violent acts	○	○	○	○	○
Using community-based programs	○	○	○	○	○
Making parenting courses available	○	○	○	○	○

46. I would be interested in enrolling my child in the following magnet choices:	Yes	No	Unsure
a. A scholar/athlete high school which emphasizes both physical and academic preparation for Olympic sports (for the student who is as serious about achievement in sports as in the classroom)	○	○	○
b. A high school program which offers courses related to medical professions	○	○	○
c. A program which emphasizes immersion in a second language for at least 50% of the day	○	○	○
d. A career center which utilizes technology and prepares students for various careers (such as drafting, video production, graphic arts, business, culinary arts, construction)	○	○	○
e. A year-round high school	○	○	○
f. A program which emphasizes the principles shared by business and law. Students will be prepared for continued training as teachers, lawyers, paralegals, accountants, bankers, financial advisors, insurance agents, and entrepreneurs	○	○	○
g. An accelerated program which prepares students for careers in agriculture and environmental industries. Studies in genetics, zoology, biotechnology, horticulture, and natural resource management enrich basic curriculum offerings	○	○	○
h. A program connected to the Children's Museum About The World that uses interactive learning and focuses on international issues	○	○	○
i. A model middle school program on the campus of NC State which would be a collaborative effort between the public school system and a research university	○	○	○
j. A program to promote academic and artistic excellence through an infusion of the arts in the total school program	○	○	○
k. A Montessori curriculum which emphasizes individual instruction, manipulatives, discovery, and self-paced learning	○	○	○

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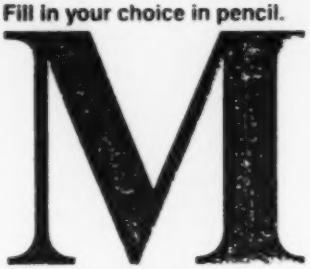
Fill in your choice in pencil.



MIDDLE

My child's school is:

- Apex
- Carnage
- Carroll
- Daniels
- Durant Road
- East Cary
- East Garner
- East Millbrook
- East Wake
- Fuquay-Varina
- Leesville
- Ligon
- Longview
- Martin
- Mt. Vernon Redirection
- North Garner
- Wake Forest
- West Cary
- West Lake
- West Millbrook
- Zebulon

ALREADY FILLED OUT

1. How many total years have you had children in this school?

1 or less | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 or more

2. How many children do you currently have in Wake County Public Schools?

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 or more

3. My child is being served by the following programs this year (mark all that apply):

- Academically Gifted (AG)
- Special Education (except AG)
- Neither of the above
- Do not know

4. Do you serve in your child's school as a volunteer on a regular basis (at least monthly)?

Yes (go to item 6) | No

5. If you are not a volunteer for education which answer(s) best describes why (mark all that apply)?

- Time constraints
- Transportation constraints
- Lack of volunteer training
- Do not know who to contact
- Do not feel comfortable at the school
- Nature of tasks
- No interest
- Other

6. What is this child's grade level?

6 | 7 | 8

7. Mark all that apply; this child's ethnic group is:

- Asian/Pacific Islander
- African American/Black
- Alaskan/Native American
- Hispanic
- White
- Other

8. Are you a member of the PTA for this school?

Yes | No | Unsure

9. Have you been contacted by the school or the PTA to participate in some role in your child's school?

Yes | No | Unsure

10. I receive enough communication from the school to keep me informed of its activities.

Yes | No | Unsure

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
11. My child's school is a safe place to learn.	○	○	○	○	○
12. My child's school grounds are clean and attractive.	○	○	○	○	○
13. My child's school building is clean and attractive.	○	○	○	○	○
14. My child's school provides a high quality educational program.	○	○	○	○	○
15. The staff at my child's school has high expectations for my child.	○	○	○	○	○
16. My child is academically challenged in all classes.	○	○	○	○	○
17. It is easy to contact the staff at my child's school.	○	○	○	○	○
18. When I have a concern about my child, I can count on the school for support.	○	○	○	○	○
19. I feel comfortable visiting my child's school.	○	○	○	○	○
20. My child's school provides sufficient opportunities for parental involvement.	○	○	○	○	○
21. I am informed about my child's progress on a regular basis (in addition to report cards).	○	○	○	○	○
22. If I call the school, I receive prompt and courteous attention.	○	○	○	○	○
23. The climate at my child's school promotes learning.	○	○	○	○	○
24. Students at my child's school are well behaved overall.	○	○	○	○	○
25. I have seen progress in my child's learning in the past 12 months.	○	○	○	○	○

26. I get involved in my child's education:

- at school (for example, parent/teacher conferences, school events)
- at home (for example, emphasizing homework, reading with my child, sending refreshments, materials, donations to school)
- Both of the above
- Neither of the above

27. Race relations at my child's school are:

Excellent | Very good | Good | Fair | Poor | Don't know

28. **I would enroll my child in a year-round school.**
Yes No

29. **The amount of homework my child receives is:**
Too much Too little
Just right None

30. **If your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for Special Education, were you involved in its development?**
Yes No Does not apply

31. **Transportation services for my child are:**
Excellent Good Poor
Very good Fair My child does not ride the bus

32. **I have had adequate communications with my child's bus driver this year.**
Yes No No communication

33. **My child's school uses the following technology in its instructional program (mark all that apply):**
Computers Calculators
CD Roms Modems

34. **Using classroom instruction based on computers and related technology prepares my child for the future.**
Yes No

35. **To help us better plan facilities use, please provide the last three digits of your zip code:**

2	0 1 ● 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
7	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 ● 8 9
	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Only complete the next questions once per family.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
36. **The Wake County Public School System is improving over time.**					
37. **The overall educational program in this school system is of high quality.**					
38. **This school system offers opportunities for success to all students.**					
39. **This school system is taking the necessary steps to promote understanding among students.**					
40. **If I call the school system's central office, I receive prompt and courteous attention.**					
41. **Race relations in this district are improving over time.**					
42. **I understand the magnet program options available to me.**					
43. **Use of magnet programs to balance schools by race is preferable to an increase in forced busing.**					
44. **Magnet schools offer additional programs. It is important to fund these programs.**					

45. **How effective do you think each of the following measures would be in reducing violence in the public schools?**

	Not At All Effective	Not Very Effective	Don't Know	Somewhat Effective	Very Effective
Incorporating character education into the existing curriculum					
Training school staffs in how to deal with student violence					
Training students about conflict resolution					
Placing police officers on high school campuses					
Establishing more alternative schools					
Enforcing stronger penalties for weapons possessions or other violent acts					
Using community-based programs					
Making parenting courses available					

46. **I would be interested in enrolling my child in the following magnet choices:**

	Unsure	No	Yes
a. A scholar/athlete high school which emphasizes both physical and academic preparation for Olympic sports (for the student who is as serious about achievement in sports as in the classroom).			
b. A high school program which offers courses related to medical professions.			
c. A program which emphasizes immersion in a second language for at least 50% of the day.			
d. A career center which utilizes technology and prepares students for various careers (such as drafting, video production, graphic arts, business, culinary arts, construction).			
e. A year-round high school.			
f. A program which emphasizes the principles shared by business and law. Students will be prepared for continued training as teachers, lawyers, paralegals, accountants, bankers, financial advisors, insurance agents, and entrepreneurs.			
g. An accelerated program which prepares students for careers in agriculture and environmental industries. Studies in genetics, zoology, biotechnology, horticulture, and natural resource management enrich basic curriculum offerings.			
h. A program connected to the Children's Museum About the World that uses interactive learning and focuses on international issues.			
i. A model middle school program on the campus of NC State which would be a collaborative effort between the public school system and a research university.			

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Fill in your choice in pencil.

H

HIGH SCHOOL

My child's school is:

- ○ Apex
- ○ Athens Drive
- ○ Broughton
- ○ Cary
- ○ East Wake
- ○ Enloe
- ○ Fuquay-Varina
- ○ Garner
- ○ Leesville
- ○ Longview
- ○ Millbrook
- ○ Phillips
- ○ Sanderson
- ○ Wake Forest

○ ALREADY FILLED OUT

1. How many total years have you had children in this school?
   ○ 1 or less ○ 3 ○ 5
   ○ 2 ○ 4 ○ 6 or more

2. How many children do you currently have in Wake County Public Schools?
   ○ 1 ○ 4 ○ 7
   ○ 2 ○ 5 ○ 8 or more
   ○ 3 ○ 6

3. My child is being served by the following programs this year (mark all that apply):
   ○ Academically Gifted (AG)
   ○ Special Education (except AG)
   ○ Neither of the above
   ○ Do not know

4. Do you serve in your child's school as a volunteer on a regular basis (at least monthly)?
   ○ Yes (go to item 6) ○ No

5. If you are not a volunteer for education which answer(s) best describes why (mark all that apply)?
   ○ Time constraints
   ○ Transportation constraints
   ○ Lack of volunteer training
   ○ Do not know who to contact
   ○ Do not feel comfortable at the school
   ○ Nature of tasks
   ○ No interest
   ○ Other

6. What is this child's grade level?
   ○ 9
   ○ 10
   ○ 11
   ○ 12

7. Mark all that apply; this child's ethnic group is:
   ○ Asian/Pacific Islander
   ○ African American/Black
   ○ Alaskan/Native American
   ○ Hispanic
   ○ White
   ○ Other

8. Are you a member of the PTA for this school?
   ○ Yes ○ No ○ Unsure

9. Have you been contacted by the school or the PTA to participate in some role in your child's school?
   ○ Yes ○ No ○ Unsure

10. I receive enough communication from the school to keep me informed of its activities.
    ○ Yes ○ No ○ Unsure

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
11. My child's school is a safe place to learn.	○	○	○	○	○
12. My child's school grounds are clean and attractive.	○	○	○	○	○
13. My child's school building is clean and attractive.	○	○	○	○	○
14. My child's school provides a high quality educational program.	○	○	○	○	○
15. The staff at my child's school has high expectations for my child.	○	○	○	○	○
16. My child is academically challenged in all classes.	○	○	○	○	○
17. It is easy to contact the staff at my child's school.	○	○	○	○	○
18. When I have a concern about my child, I can count on the school for support.	○	○	○	○	○
19. I feel comfortable visiting my child's school.	○	○	○	○	○
20. My child's school provides sufficient opportunities for parental involvement.	○	○	○	○	○
21. I am informed about my child's progress on a regular basis (in addition to report cards).	○	○	○	○	○
22. If I call the school, I receive prompt and courteous attention.	○	○	○	○	○
23. The climate at my child's school promotes learning.	○	○	○	○	○
24. Students at my child's school are well behaved overall.	○	○	○	○	○
25. I have seen progress in my child's learning in the past 12 months.	○	○	○	○	○

26. I get involved in my child's education:
    ○ at school (for example, parent/teacher conferences, school events)
    ○ at home (for example, emphasizing homework, reading with my child, sending refreshments, materials, donations to school)
    ○ Both of the above
    ○ Neither of the above

27. Race relations at my child's school are:
    ○ Excellent ○ Fair
    ○ Very good ○ Poor
    ○ Good ○ Don't know

28. I would enroll my child in a year-round school.
○ Yes ○ No

29. The amount of homework my child receives is:
○ Too much ○ Too little
○ Just right ○ None

30. If your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for Special Education, were you involved in its development?
○ Yes ○ No ○ Does not apply

31. Transportation services for my child are:
○ Excellent ○ Good ○ Poor
○ Very good ○ Fair ○ My child does not ride the bus

32. I have had adequate communications with my child's bus driver this year.
○ Yes ○ No ○ No communication

33. My child's school uses the following technology in its instructional program (mark all that apply):
○ Computers ○ Calculators
○ CD Roms ○ Modems

34. Using classroom instruction based on computers and related technology prepares my child for the future.
○ Yes ○ No

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
35. My child has sufficient knowledge of the dangers of using drugs and alcohol.	○	○	○	○	○
36. Drugs and alcohol use are causing behavioral problems at my child's school.	○	○	○	○	○
37. Lessons at school have helped my child learn to say "no" to alcohol and drugs.	○	○	○	○	○

38. To help us better plan facilities use, please provide the last three digits of your zip code:

2	●		
7		●	

Only complete the next questions once per family.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
39. The Wake County Public School System is improving over time.	○	○	○	○	○
40. The overall educational program in this school system is of high quality.	○	○	○	○	○
41. This school system offers opportunities for success to all students.	○	○	○	○	○
42. This school system is taking the necessary steps to promote understanding among students.	○	○	○	○	○
43. If I call the school system central office, I receive prompt and courteous attention.	○	○	○	○	○
44. Race relations in this district are improving over time.	○	○	○	○	○

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
45. I understand the magnet program options available to me.	○	○	○	○	○
46. Use of magnet programs to balance schools by race is preferable to an increase in forced busing.	○	○	○	○	○
47. Magnet schools offer additional programs. It is important to fund these programs.	○	○	○	○	○

48. How effective do you think each of the following measures would be in reducing violence in the public schools?

	Not At All Effective	Not Very Effective	Don't Know	Somewhat Effective	Very Effective
Incorporating character education into the existing curriculum	○	○	○	○	○
Training school staffs in how to deal with student violence	○	○	○	○	○
Training students about conflict resolution	○	○	○	○	○
Placing police officers on high school campuses	○	○	○	○	○
Establishing more alternative schools	○	○	○	○	○
Enforcing stronger penalties for weapons possessions or other violent acts	○	○	○	○	○
Using community-based programs	○	○	○	○	○
Making parenting courses available	○	○	○	○	○

49. I would be interested in enrolling my child in the following magnet choices:

	Unsure	No	Yes
a. A scholar/athlete high school which emphasizes both physical and academic preparation (for Olympic sports for the student who is as serious about achievement in sports as in the classroom).	○	○	○
b. A high school program which offers courses related to medical professions.	○	○	○
c. A year-round high school.	○	○	○
d. A program which emphasizes the principles shared by business and law. Students will be prepared for continued training as teachers, lawyers, paralegals, accountants, bankers, financial advisors, insurance agents, and entrepreneurs.	○	○	○
e. An accelerated program which emphasizes and prepares students for careers in agriculture and environmental industries. Studies in genetics, zoology, biotechnology, horticulture, and natural resource management enrich basic curriculum offerings.	○	○	○
f. A program in which a variety of instructional technology is the critical component of the learning process.	○	○	○

ATTACHMENT 2
Parent Survey Fall 1994: Response By School Level

1. How many total years have you had children in this school?	Elementary	Middle	High
1 or less	32.7	41.1	32.3
2	21.8	25.3	23.0
3	15.7	16.5	13.6
4	9.7	5.0	10.8
5	8.0	4.0	4.3
6 or more	12.0	8.1	15.9

2. How many children do you currently have in Wake County Public Schools?	Elementary	Middle	High
1	39.0	27.2	41.2
2	43.8	49.7	40.9
3	13.1	17.9	13.0
4	3.1	3.8	3.1
5	0.5	0.7	0.7
6	0.2	0.3	0.4
7	0.0	0.2	0.1
8 or More	0.1	0.2	0.6

3. My child is being served by the following programs this year (mark all that apply):	Elementary	Middle	High
Academically Gifted (AG)	19.4	36.8	34.1
Special Education (except AG)	5.1	5.8	4.3
Reading Recovery/ Early Reading (grade 1)	4.2	NA	NA
Chapter 1 (grades 2-3)	4.4	NA	NA
None of the above	55.1	52.0	56.2
Do not know	12.6	5.4	5.4

Item	Level	Yes	No	Unsure
4. Do you serve in your child's school as a volunteer on a regular basis (at least monthly)?	Elem.	34.3	65.7	NA
	Middle	14.4	85.6	NA
	High	13.5	86.5	NA
8. Are you a member of the PTA for this school?	Elem.	62.9	35.5	1.5
	Middle	55.1	42.5	2.4
	High	40.5	56.0	3.5
9. Have you been contacted by the school or the PTA to participate in some role in your child's school?	Elem.	72.2	25.0	2.8
	Middle	48.3	47.4	4.3
	High	37.8	56.4	5.8
10. I receive enough communication from the school to keep me informed of its activities.	Elem.	91.1	5.8	3.0
	Middle	70.0	23.1	6.9
	High	57.3	34.1	8.6
28. I would enroll my child in a year-round school.	Elem.	49.5	50.5	NA
	Middle	39.4	60.6	NA
	High	27.7	72.3	NA
34. Using classroom instruction based on computers and related technology prepares my child for the future.	Elem.	96.8	3.2	NA
	Middle	94.8	5.2	NA
	High	91.3	8.7	NA
46. I would be interested in enrolling my child in the following magnet choices: (49 HS)				
a. A scholar/athlete high school which emphasizes both physical and academic preparation for Olympic sports (for the student who is as serious about achievement in sports as in the classroom). (49a HS)	Elem.	38.2	38.2	23.6
	Middle	37.5	44.5	18.0
	High	35.8	46.0	18.2
b. A high school program which offers courses related to medical professions. (49b HS)	Elem.	59.9	15.8	24.3
	Middle	54.7	25.2	20.0
	High	52.1	31.2	16.7

Item	Level	Yes	No	Unsure
c. A program which emphasizes immersion in a second language for at least 50% of the day.	Elem.	26.3	45.0	28.7
	Middle	24.0	51.8	24.2
	High	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
d. A career center which utilizes technology and prepares students for various careers (such as drafting, video production, graphic arts, business, culinary arts, construction).	Elem.	65.8	16.0	18.2
	Middle	64.4	20.7	14.9
	High	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
e. A year-round high school. (49c HS)	Elem.	45.1	36.6	18.3
	Middle	37.2	48.6	14.3
	High	26.3	61.4	12.3
f. A program which emphasizes the principles shared by business and law. Students will be prepared for continued training as teachers, lawyers, paralegals, accountants, bankers, financial advisors, insurance agents, and entrepreneurs. (49d HS)	Elem.	70.8	12.0	17.3
	Middle	66.4	17.9	15.7
	High	59.4	24.2	16.3
g. An accelerated program which prepares students for careers in agriculture and environmental industries. Studies in genetics, zoology, biotechnology, horticulture, and natural resource management enrich basic curriculum offerings. (49e HS)	Elem.	60.7	16.6	22.7
	Middle	56.0	24.5	19.5
	High	46.9	33.4	19.8
h. A program connected to the Children's Museum About the World that uses interactive learning and focuses on international issues.	Elem.	47.8	23.2	29.0
	Middle	39.7	33.4	26.9
	High	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
i. A model middle school program on the campus of NC State which would be a collaborative effort between the public school system and a research university.	Elem.	55.9	17.7	26.4
	Middle	56.5	21.3	22.2
	High	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
j. A program to promote academic and artistic excellence through an infusion of the arts in the total school program.	Elem.	57.0	18.2	24.7
	Middle	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
	High	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**

Item	Level	Yes	No	Unsure
k. A Montessori curriculum which emphasizes individual instruction, manipulatives, discovery, and self-paced learning.	Elem.	44.1	28.1	27.7
	Middle	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
	High	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
49f HS. A program in which a variety of instructional technology is the critical component of the learning process.	**Elem.**	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
	Middle	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
	High	58.1	19.8	22.1

5. If you are not a volunteer for education which answer(s) best describes why (mark all that apply)? Percent answering Yes.	**Elementary**	**Middle**	**High**
Time constraints	44.2	60.0	58.6
Transportation constraints	4.1	3.6	2.7
Lack of volunteer training	1.1	1.6	2.1
Do not know who to contact	1.5	4.5	5.4
Do not feel comfortable at the school	1.5	2.6	3.2
Nature of tasks	1.1	1.5	1.3
No interest	1.0	3.3	7.3
Other	11.3	14.9	13.4

6. What is this child's grade level?	Elementary	Middle	High
K	15.1	NA	NA
1	16.3	NA	NA
2	16.6	NA	NA
3	17.7	NA	NA
4	18.0	NA	NA
5	16.3	NA	NA
6	NA	38.4	NA
7	NA	33.2	NA
8	NA	28.4	NA
9	NA	NA	32.1
10	NA	NA	27.2
11	NA	NA	22.7
12	NA	NA	18.1

7. Child's ethnic group	Elementary	Middle	High
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.7	2.9	2.7
African American/Black	20.9	18.2	16.1
Alaskan/Native American	0.2	0.2	0.5
Hispanic	1.4	1.1	1.2
White	71.5	74.6	75.8
Other	1.1	1.0	1.5
Asian/White	NA	0.3	0.2
Black/White	NA	0.2	0.2
2+ Combinations	2.2	1.4	1.8

26. I get involved in my child's education:	Elementary	Middle	High
At school	2.3	3.3	4.5
At home	13.7	28.3	35.0
Both of the above	83.6	66.1	52.8
Neither of the above	0.5	2.3	7.7

27. Race relations at my child's school are:	Elementary	Middle	High
Excellent	12.4	5.5	2.2
Very Good	26.9	13.9	7.7
Good	31.5	33.0	28.5
Fair	9.0	20.3	31.0
Poor	1.7	6.1	15.0
Do not know	18.5	21.3	15.6

29. The amount of homework my child receives is:	Elementary	Middle	High
Too much	9.2	13.8	22.4
Just right	77.4	71.8	64.5
Too little	8.6	13.9	12.1
None	4.8	0.5	1.1

30. If your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for Special Education, were you involved in its development?	Yes	No	Does not apply
Elementary	10.8	6.4	82.9
Middle	9.6	7.0	83.4
High	6.6	8.2	85.1

31. Transportation services for my child are:	Elementary	Middle	High
Excellent	9.9	6.8	3.9
Very good	16.1	15.1	6.8
Good	27.1	33.0	22.5
Fair	11.6	19.9	13.5
Poor	4.2	10.1	7.4
My child does not ride the bus	31.0	15.1	45.8

32. I have had adequate communications with my child's bus driver this year.	Yes	No	No communication
Elementary	29.1	14.2	56.6
Middle	12.4	15.4	72.1
High	4.9	13.5	81.6

33. My child's school uses the following technology in its instructional program (mark all that apply): Percent answering Yes.	Elementary	Middle	High
Computers	77.9	75.3	68.1
CD Roms	12.3	20.0	19.8
Calculators	5.2	10.4	76.1
Modems	34.2	72.9	12.7

Item (Only on High School Parent Survey)	SA+A	U	SD+D
35. My child has sufficient knowledge of the dangers of using drugs and alcohol	92.6	3.6	3.8
36. Drugs and alcohol use are causing behavioral problems at my child's school	33.2	46.5	20.3
37. Lessons at school have helped my child learn to say "no" to alcohol and drugs	50.8	29.9	19.3

Note: In the column headings, SA=Strongly Agree, A=Agree, SD= Strongly Disagree, D=Disagree, and U=Undecided.

Wake County Public Schools
Parent Survey- Fall, 1994

		Answer Options					Combined Options			
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SA+A	Unsure	D+SD	N
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Questions 11-25	LEVEL									
11 School is safe	1. Elementary	38.6	53.2	5.6	1.9	0.7	91.8	5.6	2.6	21,130
	2. Middle	15.7	57.5	18.6	6.3	1.9	73.2	18.6	8.2	8,146
	3. High	7.4	51.4	24.6	11.9	4.7	58.8	24.6	16.6	6,010
12 School grounds are clean	1. Elementary	34.7	54.4	3.7	6.0	1.2	89.0	3.7	7.2	21,115
	2. Middle	18.1	61.8	8.2	9.7	2.2	79.9	8.2	11.9	8,134
	3. High	12.7	61.3	10.6	11.4	4.0	74.0	10.6	15.3	6,014
13 School building is clean	1. Elementary	39.3	51.5	2.9	5.1	1.3	90.8	2.9	6.3	21,075
	2. Middle	20.7	60.5	7.7	9.1	2.0	81.2	7.7	11.1	8,075
	3. High	13.2	60.0	12.2	10.8	3.8	73.2	12.2	14.6	5,985
14 School provides high quality educ.	1. Elementary	30.7	52.1	12.2	3.9	1.1	82.8	12.2	5.0	21,065
	2. Middle	18.9	55.2	17.9	6.6	1.4	74.1	17.9	8.0	8,121
	3. High	13.8	53.9	19.1	9.9	3.3	67.7	19.1	13.2	6,002
15 High expectations for my child	1. Elementary	32.5	49.6	13.2	3.7	1.0	82.1	13.2	4.7	21,040
	2. Middle	21.4	51.4	20.2	5.6	1.5	72.7	20.2	7.1	8,108
	3. High	15.5	48.4	24.1	8.4	3.6	63.9	24.1	12.0	5,975
16 Child is academically challenged	1. Elementary	21.3	47.9	19.4	9.1	2.2	69.2	19.4	11.4	20,966
	2. Middle	15.5	48.9	19.6	13.1	2.8	64.5	19.6	15.9	8,097
	3. High	13.1	45.8	21.0	15.5	4.5	58.9	21.0	20.1	5,982
17 Easy to contact staff	1. Elementary	36.1	52.6	6.1	4.0	1.2	88.7	6.1	5.2	21,085
	2. Middle	17.6	53.7	16.3	9.3	3.1	71.3	16.3	12.4	8,119
	3. High	11.8	47.5	20.3	13.9	6.6	59.3	20.3	20.5	5,996

(CONTINUED)

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Wake County Public Schools
Parent Survey- Fall, 1994

		Answer Options					Combined Options			
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SA+A	Unsure	D+SD	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Questions 11-25	LEVEL									
18 School supports parent's concerns	1. Elementary	30.5	48.7	15.4	3.7	1.7	79.2	15.4	5.4	21,063
	2. Middle	16.2	47.0	27.6	6.7	2.6	63.1	27.6	9.3	8,111
	3. High	9.4	40.8	31.9	12.1	5.7	50.2	31.9	17.9	5,987
19 Comfortable visiting school	1. Elementary	48.4	45.6	2.6	2.3	1.0	94.0	2.6	3.4	21,043
	2. Middle	24.8	61.3	7.7	4.8	1.4	86.1	7.7	6.2	8,104
	3. High	17.2	60.1	12.5	7.5	2.8	77.3	12.5	10.3	5,985
20 Sufficient opps. parent involve.	1. Elementary	44.1	46.7	6.4	2.0	0.8	90.8	6.4	2.8	21,088
	2. Middle	17.3	52.3	23.1	5.9	1.3	69.6	23.1	7.2	8,102
	3. High	12.2	47.5	29.4	8.4	2.5	59.7	29.4	10.9	5,994
21 Informed of progress regularly	1. Elementary	42.5	47.1	4.0	5.2	1.3	89.5	4.0	6.5	21,093
	2. Middle	19.9	53.7	7.3	15.8	3.3	73.6	7.3	19.1	8,120
	3. High	14.9	54.1	8.3	17.7	5.0	69.0	8.3	22.7	6,000
22 Prompt attention to school calls	1. Elementary	37.0	50.1	8.2	3.5	1.3	87.0	8.2	4.7	21,063
	2. Middle	19.5	54.7	15.3	7.8	2.7	74.2	15.3	10.5	8,086
	3. High	11.3	48.1	19.9	14.0	6.7	59.3	19.9	20.8	5,974
23 Climate at school promotes learning	1. Elementary	32.5	55.2	8.7	2.6	0.9	87.8	8.7	3.5	21,052
	2. Middle	14.8	57.7	20.4	5.3	1.8	72.5	20.4	7.2	8,091
	3. High	7.9	48.4	27.5	11.3	4.9	56.3	27.5	16.2	5,977
24 Students well behaved	1. Elementary	15.3	53.2	24.3	5.6	1.6	68.5	24.3	7.2	21,038
	2. Middle	6.0	39.5	36.1	13.0	5.4	45.5	36.1	18.4	8,109
	3. High	3.6	31.6	35.5	18.4	10.9	35.2	35.5	29.3	5,999

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(CONTINUED)

Wake County Public Schools
Parent Survey- Fall, 1994

		Answer Options					Combined Options			
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SA+A	Unsure	D+SD	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Questions 11-25	LEVEL									
25 Progress in learning past 12 months	1. Elementary	35.5	52.8	7.4	3.2	1.1	88.2	7.4	4.3	20,885
	2. Middle	18.0	57.3	13.0	9.1	2.6	75.3	13.0	11.8	8,070
	3. High	14.7	55.3	14.9	10.8	4.3	70.0	14.9	15.1	5,969

Wake County Public Schools
Parent Survey- Fall, 1994

		Answer Options					Combined Options			
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SA+A	Unsure	D+SD	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Questions	LEVEL									
System improving over time	1. Elementary	6.9	41.7	40.5	8.6	2.3	48.5	40.5	11.0	18,930
	2. Middle	5.6	40.8	37.3	12.2	4.1	46.3	37.3	16.3	6,773
	3. High	4.3	38.1	36.0	15.6	6.1	42.4	36.0	21.6	5,234
System provides high quality ed.	1. Elementary	9.6	52.9	26.1	9.3	2.1	62.6	26.1	11.4	18,908
	2. Middle	6.5	50.3	26.7	13.1	3.4	56.8	26.7	16.5	6,742
	3. High	4.9	47.5	26.6	15.8	5.1	52.5	26.6	20.9	5,217
System offers opps. success for all	1. Elementary	10.8	50.7	26.9	8.9	2.7	61.6	26.9	11.6	18,809
	2. Middle	7.8	47.6	28.5	12.1	4.0	55.5	28.5	16.1	6,727
	3. High	6.7	47.2	25.7	14.3	6.2	53.9	25.7	20.5	5,190
Promote understanding among student	1. Elementary	9.5	51.3	32.8	5.0	1.4	60.8	32.8	6.4	18,832
	2. Middle	6.0	47.2	35.4	8.6	2.7	53.3	35.4	11.3	6,717
	3. High	4.6	40.0	38.1	12.3	5.1	44.5	38.1	17.4	5,201
Prompt atten. call central office	1. Elementary	9.8	33.2	45.8	8.3	2.9	43.0	45.8	11.2	18,624
	2. Middle	7.8	35.8	42.0	10.1	4.3	43.6	42.0	14.4	6,653
	3. High	5.6	30.4	43.9	12.5	7.6	36.0	43.9	20.1	5,168
Race relations improving	1. Elementary	5.1	31.2	53.3	8.2	2.3	36.2	53.3	10.5	18,724
	2. Middle	3.6	29.0	49.4	13.5	4.6	32.6	49.4	18.0	6,692
	3. High	2.9	24.2	44.7	19.1	9.1	27.1	44.7	28.2	5,209
Understand magnet options	1. Elementary	14.4	50.0	21.1	10.3	4.2	64.4	21.1	14.5	18,835
	2. Middle	13.9	53.6	19.5	9.0	4.0	67.4	19.5	13.0	6,705
	3. High	12.8	50.1	22.4	9.9	4.8	62.9	22.4	14.7	5,237

(CONTINUED)

Wake County Public Schools
Parent Survey- Fall, 1994

		Answer Options					Combined Options			
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SA+A	Unsure	D+SD	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Questions	LEVEL									
Magnet preferable to incr. busing	1. Elementary	24.6	35.5	30.8	5.2	3.8	60.1	30.8	9.0	18,690
	2. Middle	21.4	36.3	30.4	6.7	5.2	57.7	30.4	11.8	6,652
	3. High	15.9	35.1	34.9	7.2	6.9	51.0	34.9	14.1	5,192
Magnet program funding important	1. Elementary	24.7	38.8	27.0	6.2	3.3	63.5	27.0	9.5	18,796
	2. Middle	20.4	37.9	27.4	8.4	5.9	58.3	27.4	14.3	6,686
	3. High	15.1	36.5	30.3	10.6	7.4	51.6	30.3	18.0	5,179

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Wake County Public Schools
Parent Survey- Fall, 1994

		Answer Options					Combined Options			
		Very Effective	Somewhat Effective	Do Not Know	Not Very Effective	Not at All Effective	VE+SE	Unsure	NVE+NE	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Questions	LEVEL									
Character education	1. Elementary	27.7	45.3	19.0	5.8	2.1	73.0	19.0	8.0	18,794
	2. Middle	24.3	44.0	19.8	8.4	3.5	68.2	19.8	11.9	6,732
	3. High	19.1	41.9	22.5	10.4	6.2	61.0	22.5	16.5	5,179
Training staffs student viol.	1. Elementary	41.4	45.5	8.2	3.6	1.3	86.9	8.2	4.9	18,969
	2. Middle	38.8	46.2	8.4	4.3	2.3	85.0	8.4	6.6	6,780
	3. High	33.3	47.0	10.6	6.0	3.1	80.3	10.6	9.1	5,216
Train students conflict resol.	1. Elementary	46.7	41.9	7.2	3.1	1.2	88.5	7.2	4.3	18,886
	2. Middle	41.2	43.1	8.1	5.4	2.2	84.3	8.1	7.6	6,761
	3. High	31.7	44.0	11.3	8.7	4.4	75.6	11.3	13.1	5,192
Police officers on campus	1. Elementary	38.9	36.0	18.0	5.2	2.0	74.9	18.0	7.1	18,941
	2. Middle	39.3	36.8	15.7	5.4	2.8	76.1	15.7	8.2	6,769
	3. High	41.6	38.2	10.8	5.8	3.6	79.8	10.8	9.4	5,206
Alternative schools	1. Elementary	24.2	30.8	35.2	6.9	2.9	54.9	35.2	9.9	18,813
	2. Middle	25.0	30.1	33.7	7.3	3.9	55.1	33.7	11.2	6,726
	3. High	23.3	28.7	34.6	7.7	5.6	52.0	34.6	13.4	5,190
Stronger penalties	1. Elementary	72.7	19.1	5.0	2.0	1.2	91.9	5.0	3.1	18,974
	2. Middle	70.3	19.8	5.4	2.5	1.9	90.2	5.4	4.4	6,796
	3. High	65.0	21.0	7.4	3.8	2.7	86.0	7.4	6.6	5,216
Community-based programs	1. Elementary	30.3	39.5	25.7	3.1	1.3	69.9	25.7	4.5	18,837
	2. Middle	28.0	38.3	26.9	4.3	2.6	66.3	26.9	6.8	6,742
	3. High	21.4	39.2	29.3	6.1	4.0	60.6	29.3	10.1	5,195

(CONTINUED)

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Wake County Public Schools
Parent Survey- Fall, 1994

		Answer Options					Combined Options			
		Very Effective	Somewhat Effective	Do Not Know	Not Very Effective	Not at All Effective	VE+SE	Unsure	NVE+NE	N
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Questions	LEVEL									
Parenting courses run	1. Elementary	31.5	41.0	17.7	7.2	2.7	72.4	17.7	9.8	18,882
	2. Middle	26.4	38.2	22.1	8.4	4.9	64.6	22.1	13.3	6,757
	3. High	22.0	36.6	24.6	10.0	6.8	58.6	24.6	16.8	5,218

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ATTACHMENT 3

Districtwide Parent Survey Fall 1994: Comparison of Common Items by School Level

(in percentages)

NOTE:

1. In the column headings, SA=Strongly Agree, A=Agree, SD=Strongly Disagree, D= Disagree, and U=Undecided.
2. Shaded boxes represent a substantial increase or decrease of parents responding to SA+A items in 1994-95 compared to previous years (±3% or more in 1 Year comparisons and ± 6% or more in 2 Year).

WCPSS Items	1994-95			1993-94				1992-93			
	SA+A	U	SD+D	SA+A	U	SD+D	1 Year	SA+A	U	SD+D	2 Year
System improving over time											
Elementary	48.5	40.5	11.0	53.0	36.3	10.7	-4.5	51.8	38.1	10.1	-3.3
Middle	46.3	37.3	16.3	49.8	34.7	15.5	-3.5	46.6	37.4	16.0	-0.3
High	42.4	36.0	21.6	44.1	33.8	22.1	-1.7	20.4	38.8	40.8	22.0
System provides high quality education											
Elementary	62.6	26.1	11.4	59.9	26.5	13.5	2.7	64.4	26.2	9.5	-1.8
Middle	56.8	26.7	16.5	55.1	26.8	18.1	1.7	57.0	28.4	14.6	-0.2
High	52.5	26.6	20.9	51.1	26.2	22.8	1.4	52.1	28.8	19.1	0.4
System provides opportunities for all											
Elementary	61.6	26.9	11.6	59.3	29.4	11.4	2.3	63.7	27.8	8.5	-2.1
Middle	55.5	28.5	16.1	55.1	29.8	15.2	0.4	57.1	30.1	12.7	-1.6
High	53.9	25.7	20.5	50.5	29.4	20.1	3.4	52.5	29.9	17.5	1.4
Race-relations improving over time											
Elementary	36.2	53.3	10.5	41.4	46.3	12.3	-5.2	49.4	41.9	8.7	-13.2
Middle	32.6	49.4	18.0	35.8	44.2	20.0	-3.2	40.9	42.7	16.4	-8.3
High	27.1	44.7	28.2	28.7	40.4	30.9	-1.6	34.1	39.9	26.0	-7.0
Understand the magnet options available											
Elementary	64.4	21.1	14.5	65.3	20.2	14.5	-0.9	71.3	15.2	13.5	-6.9
Middle	67.4	19.5	13.0	67.7	19.2	13.1	-0.3	72.6	14.3	13.1	-5.2
High	62.9	22.4	14.7	67.5	18.7	13.8	-4.6	67.0	16.6	16.4	-4.1
Magnet preferable to increased busing											
Elementary	60.1	30.8	9.0	60.1	30.7	9.3	0.0	62.9	28.8	8.4	-2.8
Middle	57.7	30.4	11.8	58.3	29.8	11.9	-0.6	61.1	27.3	11.6	-3.4
High	51.0	34.9	14.1	54.4	30.2	15.4	-3.4	56.8	28.7	14.5	-5.8
Magnet program funding important											
Elementary	63.5	27.0	9.5	63.9	26.7	9.3	-0.4	66.3	24.6	9.1	-2.8
Middle	58.3	27.4	14.3	59.7	25.7	14.6	-1.4	60.4	25.7	13.9	-2.1
High	51.6	30.3	18.0	53.7	27.7	18.6	-2.1	55.1	27.0	17.9	-3.5

School Items	1994-95			1993-94				1992-93			
	SA+A	U	SD+D	SA+A	U	SD+D	1 Year	SA+A	U	SD+D	2 Year
School is a safe place to learn											
Elementary	91.8	5.6	2.6	91.2	6.5	2.3	0.6	94.2	4.4	1.4	-2.4
Middle	73.2	18.7	8.2	67.7	21.8	10.6	5.5	75.7	15.6	8.7	-2.5
High	58.8	24.6	16.6	47.4	28.6	24.0	11.4	57.9	22.5	19.6	0.9
School grounds are clean and attractive											
Elementary	89.0	3.7	7.2	90.4	3.4	6.2	-1.4	88.5	5.8	5.7	0.5
Middle	79.9	8.2	11.9	83.4	6.7	10.0	-3.5	81.9	9.0	9.1	-2.0
High	74.0	10.6	15.3	78.7	8.7	12.6	-4.7	78.8	10.2	11.0	-4.8
School provides a high quality education											
Elementary	82.8	12.2	5.0	83.0	12.4	4.6	-0.2	84.2	12.3	3.5	-1.4
Middle	74.1	17.9	8.0	74.1	18.3	7.6	0.0	75.7	17.8	6.5	-1.6
High	67.7	19.1	13.2	71.0	17.3	11.7	-3.3	71.3	18.8	9.9	-3.6
School has high expectations for my child											
Elementary	82.1	13.2	4.7	82.9	13.0	4.1	-0.8	84.2	12.5	3.3	-2.1
Middle	72.7	20.2	7.1	72.4	21.0	6.7	0.3	75.2	18.8	6.0	-2.5
High	63.9	24.1	12.0	65.2	23.7	11.1	-1.3	66.2	23.0	10.8	-2.3
Child is academically challenged in classes											
Elementary	69.2	19.4	11.4	68.9	19.7	11.4	0.3	71.8	18.4	9.8	-2.6
Middle	64.5	19.6	15.9	61.2	21.4	17.5	3.3	65.3	19.7	15.0	-0.8
High	58.9	21.0	20.1	59.5	20.0	20.5	-0.6	61.2	20.0	18.8	-2.3
Easy to contact the staff at my child's school											
Elementary	88.7	6.1	5.2	89.6	5.8	4.6	-0.9	89.0	6.9	4.1	-0.3
Middle	71.3	16.3	12.4	73.0	13.9	13.1	-1.7	73.8	15.7	10.4	-2.5
High	59.3	20.3	20.5	60.2	19.2	20.6	-0.9	60.9	20.6	18.5	-1.6
School supports parent's concerns											
Elementary	79.2	15.4	5.4	79.9	15.2	4.9	-0.7	80.0	15.9	4.2	-0.8
Middle	63.1	27.6	9.3	64.9	25.6	9.5	-1.8	65.8	26.4	7.8	-2.7
High	50.2	31.9	17.9	51.2	32.4	16.4	-1.0	51.4	33.1	15.6	-1.2
I feel comfortable visiting my child's school											
Elementary	94.0	2.6	3.4	95.5	2.3	2.2	-1.5	94.9	3.1	2.0	-0.9
Middle	86.1	7.7	6.2	87.9	6.9	5.2	-1.8	86.7	8.8	4.5	-0.6
High	77.3	12.5	10.3	79.7	11.8	8.4	-2.4	78.8	13.0	8.2	-1.5

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School Items (continued)	1994-95			1993-94				1992-93			
	SA+A	U	SD+D	SA+A	U	SD+D	1 Year	SA+A	U	SD+D	2 Year
Opportunities for parental involvement											
Elementary	90.8	6.4	2.8	93.8	4.1	2.1	-3.0	93.7	4.8	1.6	-2.9
Middle	69.6	23.1	7.2	78.9	15.5	5.6	-9.3	80.4	14.6	5.1	-10.8
High	59.7	29.4	10.9	73.1	19.8	7.1	-13.4	74.3	18.5	7.3	-14.6
Informed about child's progress regularly											
Elementary	89.5	4.0	6.5	91.9	3.1	5.0	-2.4	90.7	5.0	4.3	-1.2
Middle	73.6	7.3	19.1	74.2	7.5	18.4	-0.6	73.3	10.6	16.1	0.3
High	69.0	8.3	22.7	68.8	8.3	23.0	0.2	64.4	12.4	23.1	4.6

Yes/ No Items	1994-95			1994-93			
	Yes	No	Unsure	Yes	No	Unsure	1 Year
Member of the PTA for this school							
Elementary	62.9	35.5	1.5	63.4	35.6	1.0	-0.5
Middle	55.1	42.5	2.4	57.2	41.5	1.4	-2.1
High	40.5	56.0	3.5	43.6	54.6	1.8	-3.1
Contacted by school/PTA to participate							
Elementary	72.2	25.0	2.8	74.5	23.3	2.2	-2.3
Middle	48.3	47.4	4.3	52.0	45.1	3.0	-3.7
High	37.8	56.4	5.8	45.0	51.5	3.4	-7.2
Receive enough communication to keep informed							
Elementary	91.1	5.8	3.0	90.3	5.5	4.2	0.8
Middle	70.0	23.1	6.9	68.1	22.2	9.7	1.9
High	57.3	34.1	8.6	58.6	30.9	10.5	-1.3
Instruction based on computers aids child for future							
Elementary	96.8	3.2	NA	86.3	2.5	11.2	10.5
Middle	94.8	5.2	NA	84.5	4.5	11.0	10.3
High	91.3	8.7	NA	79.9	7.1	13.0	11.4

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